

READY FOR THE BATTLE

The Heavyweights to Meet in the Ring Tonight.

Setting Two to One on Fitzsimmons Against Sharkey—Both Men in Prime Condition for the Contest. The Records of the Pugilists—Their Former Meeting in San Francisco.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—Ex-Champion of the World Robert Fitzsimmons and Thomas Sharkey, who gave Champion James J. Jeffries a hard fight, will meet tonight, before the Seaside Sporting Club at Coney Island, in what promises to be one of the fiercest ring battles of recent years. The bout is scheduled to go twenty-five rounds.

It will not be for the championship, as that is held by Jeffries, who has defeated both men. It will not be the first time either that Fitzsimmons and Sharkey have met in the ring. On December 2, 1896, they fought in San Francisco.

Sharkey was beaten to helplessness and was practically out, but to the surprise of the crowd, Wyatt Earp, the referee, insisted upon by Sharkey and his friends, awarded the victory to Sharkey on an alleged foul, and Fitzsimmons lost the \$10,000 purse, which was generally admitted to belong to Sharkey.

At that time Fitzsimmons was at the zenith of his career as a pugilist, and it was shortly after this contest that he won the championship of the world from Corbett at Carson City.

Both men are said to be in fine condition. Fitzsimmons has been training hard at Bergen Beach. His working partners are "Bob" Armstrong, Jeff Thorne, Prof. "Atlas," the wrestler, and others.

Sharkey has been training at Sheepshead Bay. He has five assistants, who box with him. "Marty" Matthews, welterweight, is his principal partner at this work. His meals are prepared by his sister, who recently arrived from Ireland.

The betting on the fight is at odds of 2 to 1 on Fitzsimmons. This is doubtless largely due to the relative showing of the two men against "Gus" Rubin, who defeated Sharkey in a decisive way, only to be badly beaten by Fitz in their recent battle.

Quiet prevailed in the camps of the two men this morning. Fitzsimmons, at his home in Bergen Beach, arose at his usual hour, and after a short breakfast, he went to his breakfast, which consisted of soft-boiled eggs, chops, and coffee.

After reading the morning papers he walked to gymnasium and punched the bag for fifteen minutes. He was then given another rub-down. The lanky pugilist will sleep the greater part of the afternoon, and at about 7 o'clock will be driven to Coney Island. He will rest at Ben Cohen's Hotel until the time for him to enter the ring.

Sharkey was satisfied to loaf about his house at Sheepshead Bay. He was up as early as usual, and after eating his breakfast when a reporter called. He was given a rub-down and then took a few wallups at the punching bag.

Like Fitzsimmons, he will sleep during the afternoon, and at about 8 o'clock will drive to Coney Island. He will occupy a room in Sullivan's Hotel until it comes time for him to go to the ring.

Both men showed up in excellent condition, and confidence that they will surely win was reiterated by them to all who enquired as to their expectations.

Some claim that the terrible punishment Sharkey received in his mill with Champion Jeffries injured him permanently, and that he never will be as good a fighter again as he was in that fight. Both Sharkey and Fitz are known as "fighters" distinguished from the scientific boxers of the Corbett and McCoy stripe. Both can give and take a great deal of punishment. Both are game, and a fierce, bruising fight is expected. The winner will challenge Jeffries for the championship and he may accept.

Robert Fitzsimmons was born in Cornwall, England, June 4, 1862. He was first heard of as a fighter in Australia, where he followed the trade of a sheep-shearer. Australia, as a middleweight, he beat Herbert Slade, the "Maori Giant," his last name.

"Jim" Hall, and beat several men of his name. He came to America May 10, 1880, and won several fights on the Pacific Coast. In 1891 he won the title of middleweight champion from "Jack" Dempsey, B. C. "Nonpareil." March 2 of the same year he beat Peter Maher; March 7 he defeated Joseph Goffrey; March 8, 1893, he defeated "Tim" Hall; June 17, 1894, he made a five-round draw with Joseph Chynski; March 21 he beat Peter Maher; February 21 he beat Peter Maher; December 2 he met Sharkey, as stated above.

On March 7, 1897, he beat James J. Corbett in fourteen rounds at Carson City for the championship. On June 9, 1899, he was beaten in fourteen rounds by James J. Jeffries. Later Fitzsimmons beat Edward Dunbar and James Daly. His last battle was in New York, August 10, when he beat Gus Rubin in six rounds.

Thomas Sharkey was born in Dundalk, Ireland, November 18, 1873. He was for a number of years a sailor in the United States Navy. He began to fight in 1893 in Honolulu and knocked out all who tried to stand before him. In the latter part of 1894 he beat several men in California. Among others he met on the Coast were Alec Greig and Joseph Chynski. June 24, 1895, he fought a draw with James J. Corbett. He boxed John L. Sullivan August 21 of that year in New York, but no decision was given. Then came his bout with Fitzsimmons. On June 9, 1899, he boxed Peter Maher in New York and the police stopped the bout. Then he had a draw with Chynski. March 18, 1899, he was beaten by James J. Jeffries in San Francisco in twenty rounds on a majority.

On June 29 he beat Gus Rubin in five rounds.

Breeding and Feeding Hobbies.
The infestations are full of disease germs that become active and dangerous in constipation. Castor oil and castor pills. Druggists, 10c, 25c, 50c.

Racing at Upper Marlboro Today.
The most convincing argument for anyone who wishes to know who brews the best, purest, and most wholesome beer in the United States is by "phoning 684. Arlington Bottles, etc., for a case of Heurich's Maerzen, Senate, or Lager and drink a bottle of beer brewed of the best malt and hops.

Economy Hall.
The best place in town to have your clothes made. Economy, fitness and goodness combined.

See the Trousers we're selling to order at \$3.87. You'd pay some other tailor \$6 and be \$2.12 out of pocket.

MERTZ and MERTZ, Tailors, Economy Hall, 906 and 908 F St.

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He won from James J. Corbett in New York in nine rounds on November 12. Corbett's seconds interfered and Sharkey got the decision, which he had virtually won. He knocked out "Kid" McCoy in New York in ten rounds on January 10, 1899, and put "Yank" Kenny in a round on January 8. Sharkey's last battle was at Coney 7-5 and June 23, 1900. In this fight he was out by Gus Rubin in fifteen rounds.

The measurements of the two men are as follows:

Fitzsimmons. Sharkey.
5 ft. 11 1/2 in. Height. 5 ft. 8 1/2 in.
160 lbs. Weight. 155 lbs.
36 in. Chest. 34 in.
44 in. Chest expanded. 44 in.
35 in. Waist. 30 in.
35 in. Reach. 71 1/2 in.
11 in. Arm. 28 in.
11 1/2 in. Fore arm. 16 1/2 in.
13 in. Hand. 7 1/2 in.
35 years. Age. 33 years.

Joe Gans and Harry Lyons will witness the battle tonight.

Optimists claim the outcome of the battle is divided. Gans likes the chances of the lank marvel, while Lyons cannot see where the old man can win against such a strong young fellow as Sharkey.

Immediately after the battle Gans and Lyons will return to Ocean City, where the two have been in training for their coming battle. Herford will get some good men to meet Gans in place of McFadden, who is injured.

IN THE STOCK MARKET.
Dealings Dull and Irregular at the Opening.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—Notwithstanding the further relaxation in the London money market caused by the generally favorable news from China, London Stock Market prices today showed a general decline. The American market was not particularly active, but the losses there extended from one-half to one-half point.

The local market opened very dull and irregular. People's Gas declined rather rapidly in the early dealings on reports of the formation of an opposition gas company in Chicago.

Brooklyn Rapid Transit was also rather heavy, but in the remainder of the market such declines as appeared were of very limited proportions.

Consolidated Gas was exceptionally strong.

The dealings in the stranger stocks were in light volume and the price changes were also very limited.

The industrial market was usually dull and nothing of special significance resulted from the dealings in that division of the market.

New York Stock Market.
Corrected daily by W. B. Hibbs & Co., members of the New York Stock Exchange, 1419 F Street.

	Open.	High.	Low.	2:15
American Sugar & W.	34 1/2	35	34 1/2	34 1/2
American Tobacco	123 1/2	124	123 1/2	123 1/2
Am. Cotton Oil	30 1/2	31	30 1/2	30 1/2
Am. Lumber	27 1/2	28	27 1/2	27 1/2
Am. Paper	22 1/2	23	22 1/2	22 1/2
Am. Steel	28 1/2	29	28 1/2	28 1/2
Am. Sugar	34 1/2	35	34 1/2	34 1/2
Am. Tobacco	123 1/2	124	123 1/2	123 1/2
Am. Cotton Oil	30 1/2	31	30 1/2	30 1/2
Am. Lumber	27 1/2	28	27 1/2	27 1/2
Am. Paper	22 1/2	23	22 1/2	22 1/2
Am. Steel	28 1/2	29	28 1/2	28 1/2
Am. Sugar	34 1/2	35	34 1/2	34 1/2
Am. Tobacco	123 1/2	124	123 1/2	123 1/2
Am. Cotton Oil	30 1/2	31	30 1/2	30 1/2
Am. Lumber	27 1/2	28	27 1/2	27 1/2
Am. Paper	22 1/2	23	22 1/2	22 1/2
Am. Steel	28 1/2	29	28 1/2	28 1/2
Am. Sugar	34 1/2	35	34 1/2	34 1/2
Am. Tobacco	123 1/2	124	123 1/2	123 1/2
Am. Cotton Oil	30 1/2	31	30 1/2	30 1/2
Am. Lumber	27 1/2	28	27 1/2	27 1/2
Am. Paper	22 1/2	23	22 1/2	22 1/2
Am. Steel	28 1/2	29	28 1/2	28 1/2
Am. Sugar	34 1/2	35	34 1/2	34 1/2
Am. Tobacco	123 1/2	124	123 1/2	123 1/2
Am. Cotton Oil	30 1/2	31	30 1/2	30 1/2
Am. Lumber	27 1/2	28	27 1/2	27 1/2
Am. Paper	22 1/2	23	22 1/2	22 1/2
Am. Steel	28 1/2	29	28 1/2	28 1/2
Am. Sugar	34 1/2	35	34 1/2	34 1/2
Am. Tobacco	123 1/2	124	123 1/2	123 1/2
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